

**Environmental Management (EM)
Nevada Program Activities
Monthly Report to the
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)
June 2020**

After over ten weeks of maximum telework with limited field activities, the EM Nevada Program is beginning a safe and deliberate approach to the phased remobilization of operations. Consistent with Administration guidelines, the EM Nevada Program is in compliance with federal and state requirements that consider state and local health data and has completed the necessary preparations for proceeding with an orderly ramp up. The health and safety of the workforce is the top priority, and the EM Nevada Program is implementing enhanced health and safety protocols for the protection of staff returning to work locations.

Effective May 20, 2020, the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) began a phased transition to return to Normal Operations, including disposal operations – for the protection of radioactive disposal facility staff and waste transport drivers, additional health safety controls will be in place. On May 27, 2020, the National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office informed generators that it resumed accepting waste for disposal at the NNSS.

External Affairs

- Publications:
 - Published *DOE Marks Major Progress in Groundwater Cleanup at Nevada Site* article via DOE/EM Weekly Digest Bulletin <https://www.energy.gov/em/articles/doe-marks-major-progress-groundwater-cleanup-mission-nevada-site> – May 16, 2020
- Events/Stakeholders Meetings:
 - Conducted interviews by telecom with NSSAB membership panel – May 5-7, 2020
 - Hosted Low-level Waste Stakeholders Forum via virtual meeting (NSSAB representatives attended) – May 7, 2020
 - Hosted NSSAB administrative meeting via virtual meeting – May 20, 2020
 - Hosted EM Nevada Program Intergovernmental Meeting via virtual meeting (NSSAB leadership attended) – May 20, 2020
 - Conducted First Responder Appreciation Program, sponsored by Navarro Research & Engineering, Inc., that facilitated delivery of over 200 meals to eight law enforcement agencies and fire/emergency medical services agencies and two charities focused on organizations serving outlying areas around the NNSS. The 10 organizations benefited included: Clark County Fire Department, Station 24; Esmeralda County Sheriff's Office; Henderson Fire Department, Station 84; Las Vegas Fire & Rescue, Station 3; Nevada Highway Patrol, Tonopah Substation; North Las Vegas Fire Department; Nye County Sheriff's Office, Central Command; Nye County Sheriff's Office, Southern Command; The Animal Foundation, Las Vegas; and Three Square, Las Vegas. – month of May 2020
- NNSS Tours: None conducted in the month of May 2020
- Planned activities for June 2020:
 - Submit NSSAB membership package to EM Headquarters

- Publish article and social media for *EM Nevada Program Readies to Pass Baton to Office of Legacy Management (LM): Transfer of Tonopah Test Range Sites from EM Nevada Program to LM Nearly Complete* including YouTube video
- Publish article and social media for *Nye County Tritium Sampling and Monitoring Program* including YouTube video

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- The Waste Volume and Transportation Reports for fiscal year 2020 – 2nd Quarter (January – March 2020) is available online: <http://www.nnss.gov/pages/programs/RWM/Reports.html>
- Through May 27, 2020, shipments to the Area 5 disposal facility were suspended, with case-by-case exceptions made to meet critical needs at generating sites. Two generators received approval for six mission-critical shipments with a volume of 4,719 cubic feet for disposal at the NNSS in May 2020.
- The EM Nevada Program deferred all Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) facility evaluations requiring travel for the months of May and June 2020. The EM Nevada Program is revising the RWAP schedule for fiscal year 2020.
- Update from previous reports – Oak Ridge, TN generator: In September 2019, a facility evaluation resulted in three Findings. In May 2020, RWAP reviewed and accepted the generator's objective evidence and closed all three Findings. (please see October – November 2019, April – May 2020 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports - Idaho Falls, ID generator: In October 2019, a facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. RWAP received, reviewed, and accepted the generator's objective evidence and closed the Finding in late April 2020. (please see November 2019, January 2020, April – May 2020 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Erwin, TN generator: In February 2020, a facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. In May 2020, RWAP accepted the generator's corrective action plan (CAP). The generator will complete the CAP by September 2020. (please see March 2020–May 2020 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)

Underground Test Area (UGTA)

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 97, Yucca Flat

Work on the Closure Report continued in May 2020 and will continue in June 2020. Submittal to the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) is anticipated in June 2020.

CAU 101/102, Pahute Mesa

In May 2020, the Geochemistry Report was in internal review for addressing comments, but is delayed until late June 2020. The Pahute Mesa Hydrologic Data Document will be in internal review in June 2020. In May 2020, the update to the Corrective Action Investigation Plan was in internal review for addressing comments prior to submittal to NDEP in June 2020.

Industrial Sites

CAU 577, Area 5 Chromium Contaminated Waste Disposal Cells

CAU 577 comprises five Corrective Action Sites (CASs) located at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex. A draft Corrective Action Decision Document/CAP submitted to the NDEP in September 2019; comment resolution and work on the document continued in May 2020 and will continue in June 2020.

Post-Closure Monitoring

Non-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include CASs where post-closure inspections and maintenance performed in accordance with closure requirements. Maintenance identified during the December 2019 annual inspections will continue throughout the calendar year.

RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include six CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. Quarterly inspections will be conducted in June 2020. Monthly monitoring at CAU 111 revegetation test plots was conducted in May 2020 and will be conducted again in June 2020.

Tonopah Test Range/Nevada Test and Training Range Sites

Annual inspections were moved up a month to May 2020 due to evaluations needed in response to earthquakes centering near Tonopah, NV. No major issues were reported. Some minor maintenance issues will be addressed.